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Identical letters dated 25 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 24 July 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning Turkish troop concentrations along Iraq's international boundaries that can only be interpreted as being in preparation for the entry of the forces in question into the territory of Iraq. The Minister requests you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, to desist from its acts of aggression and to withdraw its armed forces from Iraq's territory forthwith.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 25 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Further to the letter dated 10 April 2000 addressed to you by the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq (S/2000/306, annex), I should like to call your attention to the presence of Turkish troop concentrations of one special forces brigade in strength along Iraq's international boundaries in Turkey's Şemdinli area opposite Iraq's Kani Rash sector in the Iraq-Iran-Turkey triangle. The massing of such forces can only be in preparation for their entry under various pretexts into Iraq's territory in the Sid Kan-Hajj Umran area.

Turkey has, moreover, reinforced its forces already positioned inside Iraqi territory with a view to expanding their theatre of operations through coordinated action with Jalal al-Talabani's group.

The questionable operations and manoeuvres of the Turkish forces constitute a new increment in the series of recurrent attacks being launched by the Turkish forces against the territory of Iraq, just as they coincide with the hostile military actions being perpetrated against the country on a daily basis by the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

In condemning the renewed Turkish aggression against Iraqi territory in the strongest terms, the Government of Iraq affirms its right, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, to ensure that Turkey bears full international responsibility for the consequences of its recurring acts of aggression and provocation, its violations of Iraq's sovereignty and unity and its exposure of Iraq's security and territorial integrity to the gravest risks.

As I express the hope that the United Nations will fulfil its responsibilities as stipulated in the Charter and will halt the constant intimidation and aggression to which my country is being subjected, I ask you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the principles of good-neighbourliness by desisting from such acts of aggression and provocation and withdrawing its armed forces from Iraq's territory forthwith.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq